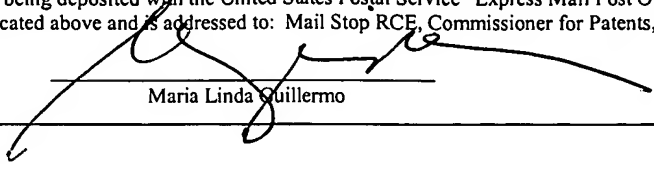


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"

Express Mail Label No.: **EL615431649US**

Date of Deposit: **May 24, 2004**

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313.1450


Maria Linda Guillermo

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: **Douglas P. ALLARD**

Serial No.: **10/017,385**

Filed: **December 14, 2001**

For: **HIGH CAPACITY BASIN FILTRATION
SYSTEM WITH ADJUSTABLE DEFLECTOR
RING**

Group Art Unit: **3673**

Examiner: **Alexandra K. Pechhold**

Atty. Dkt. No.: **11533.0012.CPUS05**

Confirmation No. **6843**

RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED NOVEMBER 25, 2003

Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Pechhold:

This is in response to the Final Office Action dated **November 25, 2003**, having a shortened statutory period for response that expired on **February 25, 2004**. A Petition for extending this period for response by three months to **May 25, 2004** accompanies this response, along with a Request for Continued Examination and a check for the appropriate extension fee. Accordingly, this Response is timely filed. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the claims in view of the following amendments and remarks.

RECEIVED
JUN 02 2004
GROUP 3600